



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

"Strive, Believe, Achieve"

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Our school Values

Honesty ~ Excellence ~ Respect ~ Resilience ~ Perseverance

Our Moral Purpose - Students will be able to choose a life that has meaning.

Warracknabeal Secondary College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

*Term 1 Week 8
23rd March,
2017*

With just one week to go in the term, many students will be finishing off assessments to ensure they do not extend into the school holidays. Staff will be writing reports over the coming days to provide essential feedback to students and parents about their efforts in Term 1. The main focus is to provide a statement about how they are going as a learner with respect to their attitude, preparedness for learning, respect of others and completion of work. This will provide a basis for discussion at Parent-Teacher-Student interviews to be held in the first week of next term.

The priority for our region this year is on student attendance. Our new Regional Director has directed our focus as a school to work with parents and families to better understand the impact of attendance on learning. The critical level has been identified as under 80% attendance, which is one whole day a week absent. Given the importance of each class and each minute of the class, I agree with the directive that we need to provide extra support and accountability in this area. As part of our process, we are specifically targeting absences that do not fall into the approved category. Approved absences include: medical (sometimes medical certificate will be requested), welfare (court attendance, visiting other parent, etc.), bereavement, religious/cultural observance, extended family holiday (provided approval has been sought one week in advance and an absence management plan has been developed) and other reasons as approved personally by the principal. The two areas that we will be following up more formally will include: unexplained absences (no contact has been made to explain absence) and parent choice unauthorised (parent is aware the child has stayed home but not given an approved reason). Letters will be sent home to families to obtain accurate reasons for absences and support will be provided to help get students to school. We need to work together to ensure that all students are attending regularly so that they do not fall behind and miss out on critical learning opportunities.

As part of our Respectful Relationships program, we are planning a community forum to educate our town and surrounding areas about the impact of modern pornography on a child's brain. This week there was an article published in The Age about the need for parents to talk to their children about pornography (<http://www.theage.com.au/comment/how-and-why-to-talk-to-your-children-about-pornography-20170315-guydzb.html>). I think the article gives some good pointers on how to have the conversation. The conclusion sums it up well when it says, "We can no longer bury our heads in the sand or delude ourselves that filters will protect them from exposure. If you want your children to engage in healthy and respectful relationships, don't leave the conversation too late." Our curriculum content runs from year 7 to 9, however conversations with trusted adults at home must be part of the education. Another article published last year describes the potential issues that can arise when left unmonitored and describes some signs to look for of a possible addiction (<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/once-i-saw-porn-there-was-no-going-back-20160715-gq6s6c.html>). If you have any concerns or questions, don't hesitate to contact the school for more advice and support.

Michael Briggs-Miller

Principal

ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – Heath Schulz

Relay for life.

Congratulations to all staff and students who participated in this fantastic event. It is an extremely personal and challenging event for many staff and students and I must congratulate everyone for the way they conducted themselves. A very important and moving part of the event is the candlelight ceremony. For a few minutes, everyone stops walking to remember those we have lost, to acknowledge those that are still fighting and to hope that one day a cure for cancer will be found. During this time, the oval plunges into darkness and only the light of candles lit by participant's guides the walking path. For those that have never experienced this, it is an incredibly emotional time. It was heart-warming to see that many students and staff supported each other during this challenging time.

Our school was fortunate to scoop three awards on the night. Miss Relay (Brylie Krause), Mr Relay (Jack Dean) and best-dressed team!! I must make a special mention to Mr Jack Daniel for driving the bus to Horsham and back. If it were not for Jack, most students would not have been able to attend. Likewise, huge thanks to the staff that stayed overnight - Mr Jeffries, Miss Attenborough, Miss Munroe and her brother Logan. This event would also not have been able to continue without you.

Finally, the fundraising grand total for our WSC group was \$2,000. Woooo Hooooo!



Sleep

After speaking to a number of students and staff, I wanted to write a little piece about the fact that it is widely accepted that most young people need about nine hours of sleep a night to maintain optimal daytime alertness. However, few teens actually get that much sleep regularly, thanks to factors such as part-time jobs, early-morning classes, homework, extracurricular activities, social demands, and late night use of back lit devices.

Sleep deprivation can have serious consequences. Tired teens can find it difficult to concentrate and learn, or even stay awake in class. Too little sleep also might contribute to mood swings and health and behavioural problems. Some strategies to consider are:

- Avoid loud music, homework, computer games or any other activity that gets your mind racing for about an hour before bedtime.
- Keep your room dark at night. The brain's sleep–wake cycle is largely set by light received through the eyes. Try to avoid watching television right before bed. In the morning, expose your eyes to lots of light to help wake up your brain.
- If you are stressed, relax with soft music or yoga right before bedtime.

End of term reports.

With the end of term fast approaching, all students will be issued with interim reports. These reports will focus on current work practices and should be used as a conversation starter for next terms interviews. I strongly suggest that all students review their report and attend the interviews with their parent or guardian.

Heath Schulz

Acting Assistant Principal of Senior School

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – WHITNEY MUNROE

As the end of the term is nearing, teachers are preparing students for assessments, reflections on learning, and reports. We are implementing a new reporting process this year that will focus on students' effort thus far, as well as key areas of improvement for each class.

During the last week of school, students will be reflecting on their progress in classes based on rubrics and teachers will also be providing feedback. As a parent, there is much that you can do to support your student through the reflection process. At home, you can ask your student questions such as:

- What did you learn today?
- Can you show me something that you learned (or did) today?
- What does your best learning look like?
- What learning are you proud of today?
- Did you ask any good questions in class today?
- What type of learner are you?

By asking students these types of questions, you will become an active part of their learning at school. This will also help students reflect on their learning and can lead to discussions about what they need to improve in the future. Now is the perfect time to start these conversations and see what your student has learned so far this term!

Once reports have been finalised and distributed, the next step in the learning process is to have students write goals. We will be doing goal setting with all of our junior students in their Learning Pathways Class so that they have a clear idea of where they are headed in term 2. Once these goals are established, you can follow up with your student as ask them how they are going to reach their goals. Having these conversations will help reinforce the importance of goal setting, reflection, and learning with your students.

Whitney Munroe

Assistant Principal of Middle School

Term 1 Progress Reports

Students will receive a Progress Report at the end of Term 1 that will be distributed on Friday 31st March. This report will provide important information about how a student is currently progressing with general and specific subject work practices, as well as providing some strategies for improvement. This report will also provide a useful foundation for discussion at Parent Teacher Interviews on April 20th. Parent and student feedback about the reports is welcomed.

General work practices include –

COMMITMENT TO LEARNING

- Homework
- Constructively on task
- Punctuality (meeting deadlines)

ATTITUDE TOWARD OTHERS

- Following instructions
- Working with others
- Respect for students and staff

PREPARED FOR LEARNING

- Organised for class (bring correct materials, electronic device)
- Effort

REFLECTION ON LEARNING

- Response to teacher feedback
- Changes made (work and work practices)

Casey Phelan

Acting Leading Teacher Operations

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

- The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their achievements.
- CSEF will be provided to eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.
- If you hold a valid means-tested **concession card** or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.
- The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students **How to Apply**: Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or print and return the form located at the end of the newsletter.

Absence Hotline - [5398 1433](tel:53981433) Or email

Charmaine – Mon, Tues and Fri - wilson.charmaine.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Chelsea – Wed and Thurs - smith.chelsea.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

Please notify the school by 12 noon on the day of the absence.

'Bridges Out of Poverty'

Staff from several regional schools, including local schools, will be attending a valuable professional development program titled 'Bridges Out of Poverty' to be held at Warracknabeal Secondary College. This will cause some disruption to our school program with several of our staff attending.

Arrangements are -

Thursday 23rd March - Year 7 and 8 students will NOT be required at school (Years 9, 10, 11, 12 attend normal classes).

Friday 24th March - Years 9, 10, 11 will NOT be required at school (Years 7, 8 and 12 attend normal classes).

W.S.C. Canteen News

The VCAL Students are doing a great job in the School Canteen this term. With supervision on the Canteen days, they are enthusiastic, capable and cooperative.



Please Note: Due to a Staff Professional Development Day, the WSC Canteen WILL NOT BE OPEN on Friday 24th March, 2017. Sorry for any inconvenience.

The WSC Athletic Sports will be held at ANZAC Park next Tuesday 28th March, 2017 and there will be food available to purchase from the Community Centre Kitchen (Canteen closed at WSC on this day). A Menu will be posted on Edmodo prior to this day.

On the last day of this term - Friday 31st March, 2017 - the WSC Canteen will be open. A new menu item on this day is 'Chicken and Gravy Rolls' \$4.00 each – please order at recess for lunch.
Thank you

Julie Pearson

Canteen Supervisor

Important Message From Y8 Science

Who am I? I have 4 rooms, 4 doors. My doors only open one way. I have lots of passages. I get lots of visitors that come and go. Without me, you would die in minutes. I have known you before you were born. I am the symbol of love. I'm inside everyone. You guessed it!!!! I'm your HEART.

Some Heart Statistics - Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) is the term used for heart, stroke and blood vessel. It is the leading cause of death in Australia with 45,600 deaths in Australia in 2011. Cardiovascular Disease kills one Australian every 12 minutes. Cardiovascular disease affects one in six Australians or 4.2 million people. 54,000 people have a heart attack every year. In conclusion if you don't look after your heart you could die!!!

Do you love your heart??? If you love your heart then you should be looking after it by eating healthy and doing cardio exercise. We have listed some healthy and un-healthy foods/drinks. Healthy food: fruit, veggies, unprocessed meats. Unhealthy food: soft drink, chocolate, chips, fried foods, burgers, beer and wine. We have listed some cardio exercises and non-cardio exercises. Cardio exercises: running, walking, sport e.g. football, bike riding. Non-cardio exercises: sitting on the couch, playing on your iPad/iPhone/iPod

From Pipper Finta, Jack Hadley, Brooklyn Hallam, Tyler Krause, Brooke Laney, Liam Padoin, Cody Richards, Kyle Walder, Delta Wardle, Ben Williamson, Alyssa Zanker.

School Production

I am incredibly excited to announce the school production of 2017 will be the comedy stage play
Game of Tiaras.

Cast will be announced on the last day of Term 1.

Students have been given production contracts to be signed by themselves and their parent/guardian(s). These contracts outline the commitment required to the production. It is important that both students and parent/guardian(s) understand what is expected of cast members.

The production is set to involve all aspects of the school! A reliable crew is required who can move sets, props, organise costumes, do the cast's hair & make up and work as a team.

Performances will be the 7th and 8th of September.
Ticketing prices to be announced soon.

Brief Description:

"When the aging king of a Magical Kingdom (England) decides to split his empire between his three daughters, Cinderella, Belle, and the Snow Queen (who in no way resembles a copyrighted character), terrible tragedy ensues. Terrible, hilarious tragedy. Combining the gut-wrenching plot twists of *Game of Thrones* and the soul-numbing despair of Shakespearean tragedy, this adaptation of *King Lear* will leave you dying with laughter as the body count mounts. When you play the *Game of Tiaras*, you win or you die."

Stayed tuned for the announcement of the cast of

Game of Tiaras!



[Like us on Facebook.](#)



We are up to 810 LIKES on the Warracknabeal Secondary College Facebook page. If you have not already “liked” our page, make sure you do so you can get updates on what’s happening around the school.

Careers Report

Year 12 Students - ACU Early Achievers’ Program

Build on your volunteering and leadership experience and explore your potential with Australian Catholic University’s Early Achievers’ Program. Do you regularly volunteer in your community, school, church, workplace or cultural group? The Early Achievers’ Program could boost your application to ACU. Applications are open from Wednesday 26 April to Monday 17 July – mark it in your calendar! If successful, you will receive an offer in August 2017 to study in 2018, and your application will be assessed on lower minimum entry scores. You’ll also benefit from opportunities to enhance your leadership and volunteering skills while at ACU. Find out more at acu.edu.au/early-achievers

Bricklaying Apprenticeship

Skillinvest on behalf of a local Horsham business is seeking an enthusiastic and committed person wishing to start a career within the bricklaying industry.

This is an excellent opportunity and ideally, the successful applicant will possess the following attributes:

- Willingness to learn and follow instructions;
- Ability to work as part of a team;
- Eager and willing to start a career in this field;
- Be physically capable of performing the demands of the position;
- Take a high level of pride in their work.

For further details contact Shane Cross on 0418 564 890.

TO APPLY: A cover letter and resume is to be sent to Shane Cross at Skillinvest via email to recruitment@skillinvest.com.au by Friday 31st March 2017.

Considering a career in surveying?

RMIT is offering a series of free workshops and students interested in a career as a land surveyor are invited to attend.

The workshops are practical one-hour sessions and will give students the opportunity to gain insight into the industry and see the current surveying equipment used in the industry including a digital level, total station, GPS and laser scanner. They will also get the opportunity to do a practical activity measuring distance and use a precise surveying total station instrument to check their measurements.

RMIT teaching staff will be on hand to answer all questions.

Events are held each month at RMIT's Field Station at Yarra Bend and are designed for students in years 10 - 12. **Sessions are also held in the upcoming April School holidays.** Sessions are being held on:

• [6 April](#) • [11 May](#) • [8 June](#) • [13 July](#) • [24 August](#) • [28 September](#) • [26 October](#) • [23 November](#) • [14 December](#)

Registrations are essential. Look up <https://www.rmit.edu.au/events/all-events> for more information.

MONASH UNIVERSITY – YEAR 10 DISCOVERY DAY

At the Year 10 Discovery Day, we'll work with students to explore the courses that fit their passions, talents and ambition.

It's a full, fun and interactive day. Students will:

- Learn how to choose a course – and a university
- Talk to staff and students about what it's like to study at Monash
- Explore our largest campus
- Acquire learning tools that will help them in Year 11 and 12

Date: Wednesday 5 April, 2017 (SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

Time: 10am – 2pm (light lunch provided)

Location: Robert Blackwood Hall, Clayton campus



For more details and to register, visit: monash.edu/year10-day

Year 12 students - A day at Melbourne

Picture yourself at the University of Melbourne on Friday 7th April (school holidays)

Ever wondered what it's really like to be a uni student? If you're in Year 12, sign up for a Day at Melbourne and find out for yourself!

Sit in on a first year lecture, quiz our current students, go on a guided tour and check out the residential colleges.

You can choose your own adventure on the day, with activities and info available on the Melbourne Curriculum, scholarships, study abroad, Access Melbourne, clubs and societies, accommodation options and much more.

There's even a session just for parents, so they can learn what they need to do to support you during the exciting times ahead.

Register now at: futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/a-day-at-melbourne

Work Experience

Year 10 students (not going on Melbourne Trip) and Year 11 students will have a week of work experience at the end of Term 2. It is not too early to start arranging these placements. Think outside the square and challenge yourself to a placement outside of Warracknabeal. Talk to your family/friends/relatives about where you can work for a week and get the ball rolling. It is an exciting time for you to begin to explore all the different careers out there, you never know, you might find your "dream career"!! If you need any help, please see me in the Careers Office in the Library.

Ritchies Supermarket Warracknabeal – Junior staff

Ritchies Supermarket are looking for junior staff to work after school and weekends.

To apply for a position please take your updated resume into Les Klemm, Manager at the Supermarket.

LEGAL STUDIES AND AUSTRALIAN POLITICS (LSAP) WORKSHOP

If you're a Year 10, 11 or 12 student who has decided on a career in the legal profession, or are thinking seriously about it, this intensive LSAP Workshop is for you! It's aimed at developing your confidence in all the different skills you need to succeed, including communication, teamwork and leadership. You'll get insights into studying at university, legal profession career options, and more.

The presentations and hands on activities will focus on the many different roles in the legal profession, how Australian laws are proposed and made and what is involved in law related university courses. To round it off, there will be a guest speaker from a legal profession to give you some real life insights.

Careers Curriculum Framework learning outcomes

Year 10: 4, 6, 8

Year 11: 2, 4, 7, 8

Year 12: 6



Travel costs - Students can apply for funding to assist travel for this event.

DATE: 5 April 2017

VENUE: Victoria University College of Law and Justice, 295

Queen Street, Melbourne

TIME: 9am - 3pm

TARGET: Years 10/11/12 students

Students, to apply online visit the LEAP website. Applications close 24 March 2017

<https://www.leap.vic.edu.au/activities/law/events/1120-lsap-workshop-program>

Further information:

adm-leap@monash.edu

Please note—limited places available

www.leap.vic.edu.au

LEAP [Learn, Experience, Access Professions] 2017 is funded by Australian Catholic University (Vic.), La Trobe University, The University of Melbourne, Monash University and Victoria University, in collaboration with the Department of Education and Training, Catholic Education Commission of Victoria, and Independent Schools Victoria.

A Victorian initiative, established in 2012 through the Commonwealth's Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program.

Nicole Stewart

Careers/VET Co-ordinator

Structured Workplace Learning

Calendar of Events

March

23-24th

Bridges out of poverty

23rd

No classes for Yr 7 & 8 (Bridges out of Poverty)

24th

No classes for Yr 9, 10 & 11 (Bridges out of Poverty)

28th

WSC Athletics

29th

Yr 8 Biology Zoo Excursion (Halls Gap)

31st

Last day Term 1

April

18th

First day Term 2

20th

Parent Teacher Interviews

25th

ANZAC Day (No school)

28th

WSC X-Country



CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

- - - OR

☐ Foster parent* OR ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____/____/____